

CLAIMS:

1. A method of automatic translation of an electronic communication from a source language to one or more target languages including the steps of:
 - 5 determining the source language of the electronic communication by identifying a translation identifier or parsing said electronic communication with a language identifier means;
 - determining the target language for the electronic communication by reading a user profile of a user receiving the electronic communication;
 - 10 comparing the target language and source language to determine a required translation;
 - obtaining the required translation; and
 - displaying the translated electronic communication to the user.
2. A method of automatic translation of an electronic communication according to claim 1 wherein, the translation identifier is a language identifier such as an HTML tag in an HTML document.
3. A method of automatic translation of an electronic communication according to claim 1 wherein, the translation identifier is a translation information segment.
- 20 4. A method of automatic translation of an electronic communication according to claim 1, wherein, if there is no translation identifier in said electronic communication, the method comprises the further step of:
 - parsing the communication with a language identifier software to determine the source language of the communication; or
 - 25 obtaining human intervention to identify the source language.
5. A method of automatic translation of an electronic communication according to claim 1 wherein the step of determining the target language further includes the step of:

reading a cookie or a file on a receiving machine to obtain the user profile or obtaining a preference language from a single sign-on system, such as Microsoft Passport® or other information repository.

6. A seamless translation system comprising:

- 5 an originating computer sending an electronic communication;
a receiving computer receiving a translated electronic communication;
a network connecting the originating computer to the receiving computer; and
a translation manager performing the steps of:
10 determining the language of the electronic communication;
determining the preferred language of a user of the receiving computer;
obtaining a translation from the language of the communication to the language of the user; and
15 sending the translated communication to the user.

7. A seamless translation system comprising:

- an electronic communication originating from a source and in a source language containing a translation identifier;
a user profile; and
20 a translation manager including means for determining the source language and a target language of said electronic communication;
wherein the translation manager executes a required translation of said source language to said target language using the translation identifier and the user profile.

25 8. A seamless translation system comprising:

- an originating computer sending an electronic communication;
a receiving computer receiving a translated electronic communication;
a network connecting the originating computer to the receiving

computer;

means for determining the language of the electronic communication;

means for determining the preferred language of a user of the receiving computer;

5 means for obtaining a translation from the language of the communication to the language of the user; and

means for sending the translated electronic communication to the user.

9. A seamless translation system according to claim 8 further comprising
10 a translation manager, said translation manager including:

said means for determining the language of the electronic communication;

said means for determining the preferred language of a user of the receiving computer;

15 said means for obtaining a translation from the language of the communication to the language of the user; and

said means for sending the translated electronic communication to the user.